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1945.

ANNUAL REPORT.
AND
VITAL STATISTICS
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD.

BY

E.M. BURRELL,

M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District

of Knutsford.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillors G. B. Mason, J.P. - Chairman.
F.Johnson, M C., J.P. - Chairman of Council.
H.Darlington.
P.Harwood.
F.Jennings.
J.Norbury.
A.E.Percy.
Wm. Shaw.
E.S.Thomas.
A. Townsend.
E. Waldron.
F.Wildgoose.

Co-opted Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Miss. H. L. Ashworth.
Mrs. M. A. Lewis.
Mrs. G. B. Mason.
Mrs. Marshall Rigby.

J. H. YATES,
Clerk to the Council.

( ) + E. M. Burrell, M.B.
Medical Officer of Health.

X + Geo. R. Butler, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector & Cleansing Superintendant.

() A. E. Lees, M. B., Ch., B.
Medical Officer, Child Welfare Centre.

() Part Time.
+ Salary Contribution by Exchequer Grants.
X Whole Time.

PART 1.

Area of District 2, 491 Acres.
Height above Sea level 210 feet.
Registrar General's estimate of Population 5,620.
Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1945) per rate book 1,761.
Rateable value £43, 854.

Sum represented by a penny rate - Gross - £183. 10. 0d.
Nett - £175. 0. 0d.

Birth rate per 1000 living 16.9
General Birth Rate (England & Wales) 16.1
Death rate per 1000 living 13.2
General Death Rate (England & Wales) 11.4

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth,	0
Deaths under 1 year in proportion to 1,000 Births	63
" " " " " " " (England & Wales)	46.
Deaths from Cancer	14.
Deaths from Measles	0.
Deaths from Whooping Cough	0.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years old)	1.

The total number of deaths from all causes was 74 of which 44 were persons over 65 years of age, and 6 were children under 1 year old.

PART 11. TABLES.
TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1945 and three previous years.

Year.	Population. For Birth Rate.	For Death rate.	BIRTHS. No.	Rate.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. Under 1 yr of age. No.	Rate.	At all ages. No.	Rate..
1942	5838	5838	99	17.0	4	40.0	65	11.15
1943	5670	5670	107	18.9	4	56.6	68	12.1
1944	5718	5718	96	16.8	3	51.0	73	12.8
1945	5620	5620	95	16.9	6	63.0	74	13.2

TABLE 11.

Diseases Notified under Acts and Orders during 1945.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.								Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages - Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and Upwards.	
Measles	126	2	67	57					
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup),	13		1	6	5	1			13
Erysipelas.	1					1			
Scarlet Fever.	5		3	2					5
Whooping Cough.	19	2	11	6					
Puerperal Pyrexia.									
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	2				2				
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	1		1						
Pneumonia.									
Chicken Pox.	13	4	9						
Totals	180	8	92	71	7	2			18

TABLE 111.

Deaths Registered during the Calender Year 1945, classified by age and cause.

Causes of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoining ages of "Residents" whether occuring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of residents or non-residents in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages	Under 1 Yr	1 to 2 yrs	2 to 5 yrs	5 to 15 yrs	15 to 25 yrs	25 to 45 yrs	45 to 65 yrs	65 and upwards	
All Causes (Certified	74									
(Un- "	0									
Enteric Fever (Para-B)										
Small-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria and Croup										
Influenza										
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Erysipelas										
Cerebro-spinal Fever										
Phthisis (pul.Tuberc)	4						1	3		
Tuberculosis Meningitis										
Other Tuberculous Dis.	1			1						
Cancer, Malignant Dis.	14						1	8	5	
Diabetes	1								1	
Rheumatic Fever										
Meningitis	1								1	
Aneurism										
Organic Heart Disease	19						1	6	12	
Bronchitis	3	3								
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	3		1						
Other Dis. of Resp.Organ	1								1	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum										
Other Digestive Dis.	2								2	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)										
Appendicitis & Typhlitis										
Cirrhosis of Liver										
Other Liver Diseases										
Cerebral Haemorrhage	6							1	5	
G.P.I.Tabes, etc.,										
Alcoholism										
Syphilis										
Nephritis & Bright's Dis.	1								1	
Arterio-sclerosis	2								2	
Puerperal Fever										
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.										
Congenital Debility & Malformation including Premature Birth.										
Violent Deaths, exclud -ing Suicide.										
Road Accidents.										
Suicide.										
Senility.	12								12	
Other Defind Diseases.	3	1						1	1	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown.										
TOTALS	74	7		2			3	19	43	

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1945 Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 wks & under 3 months	3 mths & under 6 months	6 mths & under 9 months	9 mths & under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 Year
All causes (Certified 6 (Un- " 0										
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox									1	
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria & Croup										
Erysipelas										
Tuberculous Meningitis										
Adbominal Tuberculosis										
Other Tuberculous Dis.										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)										
Convulsions										
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis						1	2			
Pneumonia (all forms)										
Diarrhoea										
Enteritis										
Gastritis										
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Suffocation, overlying										
Injury at Birth										
Atelectasis										
Congenital Malformations										
Premature Birth	1									
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus										
Gastro Enteritis						1				
Other Causes										
Totals	1					2	2		1	

Nett Births registered during the calendar year - legitimate 77
" " " " " " " - illegitimate 18
Nett Deaths " " " " " - Legitimate infants 2
" " " " " " " - Illegitimate infants 4
Still-births - legitimate 1, illegitimate 1.

TABLE V - Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

Year	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Phthisis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	TOTAL
1943		19	1		1				1	82	19	123
1944		48	18		1				4	43	2	116
1945		5	13			1				126	19	164

TABLE V1
Deaths from Special Diseases.

Year	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Enteric	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Total
1943							1		2			3
1944							1		4		1	6
1945							1		4		1	6

TABLE V11 (a)
Number of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year ended Dec 31st 1945

	0 to 1		1 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 20		20 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 55		55 to 65		65 and upwd		Totals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Pulmonary																							Nil
non-Pulmonary																							Nil

Transfers from other areas.

Pulmonary												Nil

TABLE V11 (b)
Deaths from Tuberculosis registered during the year ended Dec 31st 1945.

	0 to 1		1 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 20		20 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 55		55 to 65		65 and upwd		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary																1			1	1		1	1	3
Non-Pulmonary																								

Notification is perfectly satisfactory. The register at the end of 1945 showed as follows :-

Pulmonary Cases	Males	9)	17)	31
	Females	8)	)	
Non Pulmonary Cases	Males	5)	14)	
	Females	9)	)	

No persons suffering from Tuberculosis were found to be engaged in food supply or distribution.
No Action under Sect. 172 of Public Health Act 1936.

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SECTION B.

The foregoing tables give many details and I have added footnotes to them, as hospital and laboratory facilities remain unchanged, I need only add short references to :-

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There were 752 attendances at the centre. This is an average of 63 per session.

Two district nurses employed by the Knutsford Nursing Association do the Health Visiting and the Council pay the Association for their services.

Total visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors are as follows :-

(1)	to expectant mothers	-	first visits	8	- total visits	56
(2)	to children under 1 yr of age	-	" "	82	- " "	430
(3)	to children between 1 and 5 years				" "	375
					TOTAL VISITS	861

ANTE-NATAL CARE SCHEME.

Apart from the visits by the Health Visitor to expectant mothers, there is a considerable increase in the number of mothers who are medically examined under the scheme and at least half now avail themselves of these facilities.

Thirty three expectant mothers were ante-natally examined during the year under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

WATER.

The district is supplied with water by the Knutsford Light & Water Co., who buy from Manchester Corporation. The water is soft with low salinity and is of exceptionally high degree of organic purity. No extensions of mains were made during the year, and the supply has always been sufficient.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

All ashbins are emptied and cleansed fortnighly, a certain number being emptied weekly, whilst bins at the hotels and large shops are emptied twice weekly.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no licensed camping sites in the District and the number of gypsies camping on roadsides has reduced to practically nil.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the Town.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

No nuisances have arisen in respect of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.,

THE ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the general inspection of the district two houses were found to be infested with bugs. These houses were treated with insecticide and effectively cleared. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All the sewerage from the Urban District is carried by gravitating sewers to the disposal works on the north-east boundary of the Town, where the treatment has been carried out quite satisfactorily during the past year.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supply at the schools are above suspicion as to the cause of infectious disease. The lavatory accommodation and closets are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and all elementary schools are disinfected during the summer holidays.

SECTION D. - HOUSING.

House construction has been practically nil, two adaptations of outbuildings into cottages have been approved during the year, whilst plans have been approved for the conversion of several of the large houses in the district into flats.

The Council have instructed the Surveyor to prepare layouts and designs for approximately 50 houses on a site off Northwich Road and it is hoped to put the work in hand early in 1946.

The usual routine inspections were carried out and a number of informal notices have had the desired effect.

Generally speaking the housing conditions in the town are quite satisfactory.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year the farms and dairies have been visited at various times, and continue to be kept in a satisfactory manner.

The sampling of the milk is undertaken by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, but no cases of adulterations were reported during the year.

VETERINARY INSPECTION OF CATTLE.

The veterinary inspection of cattle is not now carried out by the County Council. Seperate statistics are not kept for the various districts regarding milk samples for bacterial content and tubercle bacilli, but the County Medical Officer confirms that samples of milk have been examined from each farm holding an accredited licence.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

All the slaughterhouses in the area are closed and no animals have been slaughtered in the area during the year. The various butchers in the town receive their supplies from the allocation depot at Altrincham.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 12 Bakehouses in use in the district. These premises have been inspected periodically during the year, and notices requesting the occupiers to limewash the walls have been served at stated periods, and as occasion has required. The premises have been kept clean generally, and have been limewashed in accordance with the regulations.

SECTION F. - INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Immunisation against diphtheria has gone ahead during the year and the total number of children under 15 years of age which have received

immunisation now amounts to 836 out of an estimated total of 1405.

Of the 13 cases of diphtheria notified only 2 had received immunisation prior to contracting the disease.

SANITARY STAFF.

This is unchanged. I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Butler, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, for his excellent work throughout the year, also for his assistance in compiling this report. - My thanks are also recorded for the courtesy and help of Mrs. A. Johnson, the Clerk-Typist in the Health Department.

E. M. BURRELL,

M.B., Ch. B.,